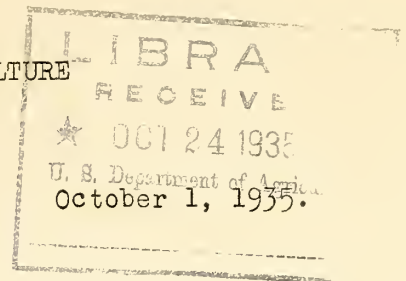


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Weather Bureau
Washington



Office of the Chief

CIRCULAR

INDICATING TIME OF PILOT BALLOON OBSERVATIONS
IN DAILY TRANSMISSION OF REPORTS

Effective October 15, 1935, the time of pilot balloon observations will be indicated in the daily reports transmitted by radio and teletype as follows:

Add 20 minutes to the time of releasing the balloon. Change this to nearest whole hour. Convert to Eastern Standard Time. Use 0-23 hour basis. For example: Denver, Colo., balloon released, 3:12 p. m., Mountain Standard Time. Adding 20 minutes gives 3:32 p. m. Changing to Eastern Standard Time gives 5:32 p. m. Changing to the nearest whole hour on the 0-23 hour basis gives 18. Thus, this will be indicated in the message as follows: DV 18UA instead of as DV 1512MS UA as at present.

The procedure described above will also be followed in the telegraphic word code, that is, the nearest whole hour as obtained above will be coded in Eastern Standard Time.

The purpose of adding 20 minutes to the time of the balloon's release is to indicate more nearly the mean time of the observation. The omission of the minutes and the letters ES, CS, etc, will result in an appreciable saving of time on the teletype circuits.

Weather Bureau observers in filing these reports with local Department of Commerce operators for transmission will furnish these operators the time of the balloon's release, plus 20 minutes, so that the local broadcast will indicate the mean time in minutes in local standard time.

No change in the present method of entering times of balloon runs on Forms 1110A and 1115 will be made.

Weather Bureau circular, dated July 1, 1933, Instructions for Reporting Pilot Balloon Observations, is hereby amended accordingly.

C. C. Clark,
Acting Chief of Bureau.

